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Addendum

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1. Asian Women's Human Rights Council

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Introduction

The Asian Women's Human Rights Council (AWHRC) is an organization that seeks to extend and transform the human rights discourse from the perspective and life visions of the South, the marginalized, women. By challenging the dominant world view and its discourses and seeking to strengthen women's knowledge and wisdom, it invites us to another dialogue, proffering new visions towards a just and peaceful world for women and men. Comprising women from women's groups, academia and human rights organizations, AWHRC functions from its regional secretariat in Bangalore, India, and a secretariat in Manila, the Philippines.

The aims and purposes of AWHRC are:

(a) To develop as well as to promote a critical and a feminist perspective on human rights; and to specifically focus on the gender dimension in the dominant human rights discourse;

(b) To understand and to see with new eyes the realities of the different forms of violence against women in Asia, denying women their most fundamental right to be human;

(c) To facilitate unity among the women of the South, especially among Asian women; to deepen our analysis of the roots of the violence against women; to create different platforms and possibilities for dialogue with women, human rights groups and social movements;

(d) To foster solidarity and concrete action among women's groups, leaders and advocates in the region and to effectively promote women's human rights as integral to the struggle for the collective rights of peoples;

(e) To work towards changing the existing socio-economic, political and patriarchal systems in the countries of Asia and the Pacific as they continue to breed severe forms of exploitation, inequality and violence towards women;

(f) To gather in conversations across cultures, the knowledge and wisdom in the Asia-Pacific region and of women of all cultures, entering into a dialogue of transformation that challenges the dominant world view creating a new discourse; and to develop new visions towards a just and peaceful world for women and men.

The focus of AWHRC is the escalating violence against women in the context of:

- The growing militarization and nuclearization of nation States in the Asia and Pacific region;
- Fundamentalism, and communal and ethnic conflicts which are enveloping the region;
- The dominant development model, the globalization of poverty and the increasing feminization of poverty;

- The continuing and escalating wars against women in the personal realm: women's health and reproductive rights, the violence of rape, dowry murders, trafficking and prostitution, honour crimes, female infanticide.

AWHRC has been working at two levels towards making this violence visible. At one level, AWHRC is working with different civil society actors like women's and human rights organizations and networks, non-governmental organizations and academia to initiate deeper levels of enquiry into the root causes of this violence and seek justice and reparation for the victims of violence in the Asia-Pacific region. At another level, it seeks to undertake lobby and advocacy action with Governments and other related international entities like the United Nations to hold them accountable for the violence and its redressal. On account of its effective international networking and advocacy, it was granted special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in July 1995.

Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies and/or conferences and other United Nations meetings

In this context, it has participated in all the major international meetings, both at the United Nations forums and in parallel non-governmental organization processes since 1993 including:

(a) The World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 1993;

(b) International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 1994;

(c) The World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, Denmark, 1995;

(d) The Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 1995.

Apart from this, it has been doing lobbying and advocacy work with the United Nations Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, not only on including a gender dimension in their mandate but also on specific issues it has been involved with, particularly the comfort women issue, trafficking and prostitution.

In this context, the specific activities it has undertaken between 1995 and 1998 include:

World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, Denmark, 1995

AWHRC participated in the NGO Forum of the World Summit for Social Development and organized the following workshops:

- Caucus of South Women's Networks along with the Asia-Pacific Women's Action Network (APWAN);

- Social Development in Countries experiencing Economic Blockade sponsored with AMISTAD: Philippine-Cuban Friendship Society, Development Alternatives with Women for New Era (DAWN), GABRIELA, Philippines (the General Assembly Binding Women for Reforms, Integrity, Equality, Leadership and Action) and Federación Mujeres de Cuba (FMC);

- Hour of the Fox, a workshop on the Violence of Development and Crimes Against Women sponsored with Vimochana, India.

World Conference on Women, Beijing, China, 1995

Apart from organizing almost 14 workshops on various issues like dowry violence, violence against the Dalits, militarization; comfort women and the World Court of Women on Violence Against Women, during the NGO Forum, AWHRC participated in several official United Nations processes leading up to the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, that is to say, it:

(a) Participated in the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities experts meeting in February 1994 in Geneva as well as in the meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women acting as the preparatory body for the Fourth World Conference on Women, in New York in March 1994;

(b) Coordinated two themes [eight workshops] at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Regional Asia and Pacific Meeting for NGOs held in Manila in preparation for the Beijing conference, 1995;

(c) Participated in the thirty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women: final preparatory meeting before the Beijing conference, held in New York, in April 1995. This meeting provided an opportunity for AWHRC to forward several comments and suggestions for the draft Platform for Action. This included emphasizing that the global situation had drastically changed and that, in this context, democracy could not be equated with a free market economy. Its intervention was that women of the South must respond to the challenge to develop a post-cold war paradigm of politics and make the United Nations and Governments at the local and international levels accountable to their people. It was important, in this connection, to develop post-Beijing mechanisms of democratic participation at the national, regional and international levels;

(d) The Council was involved in the convening of the Caucus of Asia-Pacific Women's Networks, composed of Manila-based regional women's networks for Beijing. It was also involved in the formation of the Asia-Pacific Women's Action Network (APWAN), formed on 9 May 1994 in Bangkok. APWAN served as a regional non-governmental organization formation composed of regional and national networks of women to lobby for democratic spaces in the official processes towards Beijing. AWHRC was elected to provide the facilities for communication and contacts of APWAN partners;

(e) 1-6 June 1994: Lobby Training Seminar for Asian Women's NGOs before the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Women (Jakarta, Indonesia); and 7-13 June: lobbying actions during the Ministerial Meeting organized with Kalyanamitra in Indonesia and the Caucus of Asia-Pacific Women's Networks;

(f) 14-17 November 1994: Women's Human Rights and the Challenge of Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS): a conference organized by AWHRC in partnership with the World Council of Churches, Human Rights Task Force Cambodia, and the Cambodian Women's Development Association, held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

Comfort women issue

With regard to this issue:

(a) AWHRC lobbied for the adoption of the report on violence against women, compiled by United Nations Special Rapporteur Radhika Coomaraswamy, at the fifty-second session of the Commission on Human Rights held in Geneva, Switzerland, April 1996; written interventions were submitted endorsing the report;

(b) AWHRC joined the international alliance of support groups for the women victims and survivors of Japan's military rape and sexual slavery during wartime, which campaigned successfully for the adoption of the Coomaraswamy report by the Commission on Human Rights;

(c) AWHRC also attended and actively participated in the twenty-first session of the United Nations Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, held in Geneva, Switzerland, 17-27 June 1996. It presented an oral intervention at the NGO Representatives Forum held on 24 June 1996 calling for United Nations support against the Japan-sponsored Asian Women's Fund, the private fund being offered in lieu of State compensation to comfort women victims;

(d) In March-April 1997, four Japanese were designated by AWHRC as its representatives to the Commission on Human Rights session in Geneva. Two written statements were submitted on behalf of AWHRC, on the issue of the comfort women and their demand for State legal compensation from the Japanese Government;

(e) At the August 1997 session in Geneva of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, two Japanese from Citizens Fund for Redress in Tokyo were designated as AWHRC representatives and submitted written statements and delivered oral interventions on the comfort women issue;

(f) In the March-April 1998 session of the Commission on Human Rights, four Japanese were sent as AWHRC representatives and delivered oral interventions on the issue of the comfort women under the agenda item on the human rights of women;

(g) At the August 1998 session of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, one Japanese was sent as AWHRC representative and submitted a written statement and delivered an oral intervention on the comfort women/military sexual slavery issue and on the report prepared by Gay McDougal, the Special Rapporteur on wartime sexual slavery.

2. Federal Union of European Nationalities

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

About the Federal Union of European Nationalities

The Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN) is an independent union of the organizations of national minorities in Europe, which was established in 1949, at the time when the Council of Europe was set up in Versailles, France. Today, FUEN numbers 68 member organizations from 30 States (as of 2000).

Objective

According to its statutes, FUEN serves the ethnic groups in Europe and pursues the goal of preserving their national identity, their language, their culture and the history of national minorities. This objective is pursued only by peaceful means. FUEN decisively takes a stand against separatism and the violent moving of national borders, and works towards a neighbourly, peaceful coexistence of majority and minority in one State or region. FUEN has been convinced since 1949 that a minority can find a harmonious relationship with the majority population only on the basis of free democratic and constitutional principles in peaceful and constructive dialogue through the negotiation of political solutions.

FUEN activities

FUEN activities consist of:

- The Annual Congress with a current central theme;
- The Assembly of Delegates which takes place in connection with a congress;
- Passing of statements and resolutions;
- Publication of press releases (up to 20 times per year) and FUEN bulletins (up to six times per year);
- Participation in meetings of non-governmental organizations of the Council of Europe, the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE);
- Organization of regional activities (for example, annual meetings of Slavonian and German minorities in FUEN);
- Organization of or participation in symposia and other events relating to minority issues in Europe;
- Visits to national minorities to ascertain their situation (so-called fact-finding missions with detailed reports and recommendations).

According to FUEN's consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, FUEN took part in the following events (1995-1998).

1995: FUEN is granted special consultative status

FUEN, already in consultative status with the Council of Europe (since 1989), was granted consultative status with the Economic and Social Council. This constituted further recognition of the activities and targets of FUEN on an international level. After detailed preparation and examination of the records, the committee responsible finally turned to the application submitted by FUEN, on 13 June, in New York. At this point, an FUEN representative was heard. On 1 August 1995, FUEN received the official document from the United Nations indicating that FUEN had been granted special consultative status with the Council.

1996: Participation of FUEN at the forth-ninth annual NGO/Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat conference in New York

The conference was divided into plenary sessions and working groups. The FUEN representative took part in both. On 10 September 1995, the FUEN representative visited that on "Security Council reform".

On 11 September 1995, the FUEN representative took the opportunity to make a statement in the working group regarding conflict resolution. In his introduction, the FUEN representative focused on the draft of the additional protocol to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and the work that had followed regarding the monitoring of the situation of national minorities in different States in Central and Eastern Europe. The FUEN representative emphasized the effort of FUEN to play the role of mediator between State authorities and the representative of national minorities.

The FUEN representative received a question from the floor regarding his opinion regarding why national minorities in Europe had different claims in their struggle for minority rights. The FUEN representative answered that that question would require another workshop to discuss it in detail, but generally on the level of principles, he referred to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) as well as the Declaration of the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities, 18 December 1992, and other international documents that guaranteed the equality of rights, and the right to freedom, as well as the right to identity.

1997

26-29 May 1997: Conference on human and minority rights in Geneva

18 and 19 August 1997: Conference on human and minority rights in Geneva

16 December 1997: "Stability or 'In' Stability": FUEN conference in Copenhagen

Prior to the OSCE conference in Copenhagen, FUEN jointly with the German and Danish minorities in the border area organized a seminar on the role of national minorities in search of stability in Europe. Professor Asbjörn Eide, President of the United Nations working group on minority issues, illustrated the current status of United Nations efforts towards minority protection; after summarizing the range of international legal and political instruments, Silvo Devetak of Maribor (Slovenia) presented major issues involved in compiling the Charter for European Security which the OSCE had to observe and continuously promote.

In the final plenary discussion, the FUEN President emphasized the role of international organizations as partners of State institutions. As Rapporteur for minority issues at the Council of Europe, Henning Gjellerod (Denmark) also assessed the international mechanisms of the Council of Europe for the protection of minorities as a first significant step, provided that these would be signed by all members of the Council of Europe and implemented in the sense in which they were meant to be implemented. However, further measures, like the supplementary protocol to the human rights instrument — still gathering dust in a drawer — would

have to follow. Anke Sporendonk and Sigfried Matlok, representatives of the two minorities in the German-Danish border region, illustrated the mutually agreeable yet not totally conflict-free coexistence with the respective majority population which was based, to a not inconsiderable extent, on the German-Danish treaty and generously interpreted regulations granting a high degree of autonomy in educational and cultural fields.

In a status analysis of the Baltic region, Dr. Priit Järve of the European Centre for Minority Issues in Flensburg saw substantial potential for conflict in the still unsolved question of citizenship for the Russians, a previous majority now forming a minority, and consequently, in the relationship of Estonia and Latvia with the Russian Federation.

As the matter is currently topical, the Hungarian representative of the Hungarians in the Romanian Parliament, Dr. Ferene Peesi, spoke in Copenhagen. He agreed with Romania's ambassador Dr. Grete Tartler Tabarasi, that a stabilization of the coalition government and isolation of fundamental nationalistic currents were of the greatest significance in consolidating the democracy in Romania.

The FUEN Presiding Committee considered the ethno-political conflict potential to be one of the greatest risks to stability in Europe also in future. The Committee compiled a policy document for the attention of OSCE containing concrete demands and expectations placed on national and international organizations concerned with minority policies.

1998

27 February-1 March 1998: Oslo Recommendations on the Linguistic Rights of National Minorities

27 and 28 April 1998: Language and human rights, the role of States, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations

5 November 1998: How to deal with the Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities in Conjunction with the OSCE Conference of Implementation in Warsaw on 5 November 1998; seminar for the national minorities in Poland

The Presiding Committee of FUEN resolved to hold seminars for members of national minorities and interested OSCE delegates in connection with important OSCE meetings. The first meeting of this kind took place in Copenhagen in December and encouraged the Presiding Committee to prepare and carry out a similar event for the Warsaw Implementation Meeting. The FUEN President was pleased to welcome 61 participants in the plenary hall provided by OSCE. Apart from representatives of international non-governmental organizations, delegates and ambassadors from several OSCE States were present.

In his speech, Professor Gerhard Bartodziej, former Senator of the Polish State, provided a sober and critical overview of the current situation of national minorities in Poland. Poland is still some distance away from a satisfactory legal and political solution; the emotional climate towards national minorities must be referred to as rather unstable. Representatives of the Lemks, Masurians, Belarusians,

Tartars, the German Social Cultural Society and the German Working Group "Reconciliation and Future" described their organizations and problems.

The discussions were followed by information on the two conventions of the Council of Europe that take effect that year. The meeting passed a joint declaration, in which the Government and Parliament of Poland were called upon to give political priority to the ratification of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

3. International Catholic Union of the Press

(Special consultative status granted 1951)

Introductory statement

The International Catholic Union of the Press (UCIP), founded in 1927 in Brussels, Belgium, has the following goals: to encourage the presence and to support the activities of Catholics in various sectors of the press and all forms of press information; to promote the development of Catholic journalism in every country; to promote and defend the right to information and freedom of opinion; and to represent Catholic journalism at the various institutions and organizations, both governmental and non-governmental.

Membership

UCIP's membership is grouped by eight regional federations: Africa, Latin America, North America, South America, South Asia, South-East Asia, East Asia and Europe. Membership also includes seven professional federations, namely, Individual Catholic Journalists, Federation of Catholic Dailies, Federation of Periodicals, Federation of Catholic News Agencies, Federation of Catholic Journalism Teachers and Researchers, Federation of Church Press Associations and, beginning in 1995, the Federation of Book Publishers.

In the past five years, UCIP has seen a steady growth in individual memberships from both the Catholic and the secular press. In its regional federations, growth has been noted in federation memberships. Individual membership among women professionals has increased in recent years. Mrs. Elizabeth Ee-Chooi (Malaysia) became the first woman and first non-European UCIP member to be elected President of the organization in 1998.

Finances

Membership dues of individuals and the professional and regional organizations finance UCIP. The organization has not received funds from any United Nations body nor has it requested assistance from that organization. There is an annual shortfall between operating expenses and actual dues income. Considerable fund-raising efforts are conducted annually among friends, Catholic organizations and charitable institutions interested in supporting the Catholic press.

To develop and expand upon its membership base, UCIP operates a number of specialized programmes designed to attract journalists of all ages. Among its most successful is the International Network of Young Journalists. This group has its own

study courses and even its own international meeting and has brought new vitality, new ideas and a regular updating on the expectations of the new generations. UCIP's Refresher Programmes, short-term, intensive study sessions in Colombia, Peru, Mali, Lebanon, Prague and Ghana from 1995 to 1998, attracted journalists, both young and older, to focus on contemporary journalistic problems in situ. UCIP university special courses for Catholic and non-Catholic journalists were conducted in 1996 in Hong Kong, China, and Macao, China, and in 1997 in Argentina, Bolivia and Brazil. The sessions concentrated on first-hand encounters with the culture, realities and the individual and national viewpoints in the host countries to help media professionals better understand the life on continents other than their own.

Participation and cooperation with United Nations organizations

UCIP members regularly attend conferences, meetings and other United Nations organizations' activities. UCIP is accredited to the Economic and Social Council in New York and in Vienna and to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris. Among major sessions participated in by UCIP non-governmental organizations during the report period were: Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995: meeting of the preparatory body for the Beijing conference held in New York, March 1995; World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 1995; United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, June 1996; World Food Summit, Rome, 1996; special session of the General Assembly (five-year review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development), New York, 23-27 June 1997.

UCIP non-governmental organization representatives attended many other annual United Nations observances during the report period including World Press Freedom Day and International Day of Families, among others. UCIP held its International World Congress of the Catholic Press at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris, 11-20 September 1998, with a participation of more than 1,180 journalists from around the world.

Like many other non-governmental organizations at the United Nations, UCIP representatives generally tend to work through various non-governmental organization committees or specialized United Nations bodies. In New York, the UCIP non-governmental organization is a member of the NGO Committee on the Family and the Committee of Religious NGOs at the United Nations. He also works with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat. In Paris, the UCIP non-governmental organizations are active at UNESCO since many press problems and concerns, such as freedom of information, and the rights and freedom of journalists, come under that organization's mandate, UCIP headquarters staff also attend a variety of United Nations meetings and briefings in Geneva.

UCIP publications include (a) documents: position papers of the world union reflecting and analysing topics of serious journalistic interest, for example, "Press and tolerance" (1995) and "Press responsibilities in violent conflict situations" (1993); and (b) books such as *Ethics of Peace in a World of Violence* with contributions from media experts, and State and religious leaders to explore options for a lasting peace. The organization also issues a quarterly newsletter, *UCIP Information*, in English, French, German and Spanish.

4. National Safety Council

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Introductory summary

The National Safety Council (NSC) has energetically worked to promote key United Nations documents relating to occupational safety and health, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. During the reporting period, the National Safety Council expanded cooperation with United Nations agencies, particularly the International Labour Organization (ILO), and spearheaded significant efforts throughout the world to promote effective safety and health programmes.

Aims and purposes of the National Safety Council

The National Safety Council was organized as a not-for-profit, non-government corporation in 1913 to promote policies and actions to mitigate human suffering resulting from preventable injuries, illnesses and fatalities. In 1953, the United States Congress passed Public Law PL-259 formally establishing the Council as a federally chartered non-political, non-profit corporation.

Headquartered outside Chicago, Illinois, the National Safety Council currently has over 300 full-time staff members devoted to promoting workplace highway and home/community safety. More than 17,000 business labour, professional and government organizations and officials in some 80 countries worldwide are members of the Council. The international advisory board for NSC includes representatives from North and South America, Europe and Asia.

In pursuit of its mission, the National Safety Council provides a wide range of training and education programmes and on-site consultation services, and convenes numerous conferences and meetings each year — including an annual Congress and Exposition — to discuss safety and health issues affecting a wide range of industries.

The National Safety Council's programmes stress the vital importance of cooperation between Governments, business and labour groups, and professional associations to identify solutions to the leading causes of preventable injuries, illnesses and fatalities. The Council works closely with officials at all levels of government, and stresses dissemination of information about "best practices" to eliminate safety and health hazards.

Cooperation with the United Nations and specialized agencies

During the reporting period, the National Safety Council has worked energetically to promote cooperation with the United Nations organizations and specialized agencies to further the cause of effective occupational safety and health. These activities have been geared to promote those portions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which deal with working conditions, and specifically with safety and health in the workplace.

The National Safety Council has been particularly successful in developing cooperative programmes with ILO. These include cooperation with the ILO's

International Training Centre in Turin, Italy, where NSC has delivered safety and health training courses for ILO/UN trainees, and sponsorship of a special international workshop on agricultural safety, again in cooperation with ILO. NSC and ILO are also exploring cooperative activities in other areas, including international programmes on the positive relationship of safety and productivity in economic development.

NSC has also held preliminary discussions with ILO and the World Health Organization (WHO) about development of a new compendium of international occupational safety and health statistics.

NSC has been instrumental in providing safety training for United Nations peacekeeping troops in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In addition, NSC has begun working closely with a number of international development and financial institutions, including the Asian Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank. The goal of these efforts is to incorporate safety and health into development activities in ways that promote economic development. NSC has developed a pilot project for Central America which will introduce new approaches to safety and health through cooperation among the social partners.

As part of its efforts to promote worldwide respect for the safety and health provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights, as well as the conventions and recommendations of ILO in this area, NSC has spearheaded efforts to expand the role of, and communications between, safety councils throughout the world. NSC, with assistance from ILO and the International Social Security Association, organized the first meeting of safety councils in Madrid in 1996, during the World Safety Congress. These discussions have led to joint activities in a number of areas, including development of new international clearing houses for information on major chemical incidents, and highway safety research. NSC and its counterpart in Japan, the Japanese Industrial Safety and Health Association, in 1997-1998 conducted a special joint study on safety and productivity among large multinationals, and demonstrated that the relationship is positive. These efforts are now expanded to cover safety and productivity in small and medium-sized enterprises, under the auspices of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum. ILO and the Asian Development Bank are also cooperating in these efforts.

Other relevant activities

NSC:

- Signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Indonesia for the delivery of health and safety training through the Ministry of Manpower to small, medium-sized and large enterprises;
- In conjunction with the ILO International Training Centre, Turin, is providing training to labour inspectors of China;
- Is undertaking an independent review of construction safety in Hong Kong, China;
- In central and eastern Europe, is providing training courses in the Russian, Czech and Polish languages.

5. Water Environment Federation

(Special consultative status granted 1995)

Summary

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) was granted special consultative status in 1995 and between 1995 and 1998 worked to understand how it might contribute to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development and its subsidiary bodies and to make United Nations officials aware of the technical resources WEF can provide. As documented in the present report, some success was achieved. The organization was represented at many meetings and briefings and at the fifth and sixth sessions of the Commission. It provided information to individual officials and those working with the United Nations, contributed water-related case studies that were published in the United Nations publication *Sustainable Development Success Stories*; and provided substantive review and input to a strategy paper developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Sustainable Energy and Environment Division. The Chief of the Water Resources Section of the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) was featured as a keynote speaker at a WEF conference, and the organization provided some modest financial support to United Nations-related activities.

Introduction

WEF remains an international not-for-profit educational and technical organization with a mission to preserve and enhance the global water environment. It still provides a wide range of technical manuals, and training materials in various print and electronic formats; conducts conference seminars and training courses; has a substantial public education and outreach programme; and works through its research foundation to advance scientific and technical research to improve water quality management. In recent years, WEF has taken a more active role in the international dialogue on water policy. Since WEF's application for consultative status was submitted in May 1994, the international scope of the organization has also increased. In 1994, it was a federation of 64 "local, regional, and national organizations". Between 1994 and 1994, WEF added member associations (MAs) in Mexico (1994), the Philippines and Colombia (1995), Child (1996), and Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Hungary, eastern Mexico and the Palestinian territories (1977). Each of these MAs is an independent association of environmental specialists represented on the WEF Board (its governing body). In addition to the expanded network of local, regional, and national organizations that are represented on the WEF Board, the organization has corresponding or affiliated organizations in six countries. Two of these affiliations, with organizations in Bulgaria and Indonesia, have been established since 1994.

During the reporting period, WEF's sources of funding remained primarily membership dues; conference, exhibit, and seminar fees; advertising charges; and the proceeds from the sales of print and electronic technical and educational materials. WEF also did not establish any formal affiliation with another organization in consultative status.

Participation in conferences and meetings

Between 1995 and 1998, WEF's official representative, Mr. Nicholas Bartilucci (a WEF member), participated in a wide range of briefings, seminars and meetings at United Nations Headquarters. For example, he attended the fifth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in June 1997 as an observer and participated in the seminar on sustainable development and education cosponsored by United Nations University (UNU) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) in April 1998 and in the sixth session of the Commission (April 1998). WEF staff representatives also attended the sixth session of the Commission and travelled to New York to accompany the official representative to meetings with United Nations representatives to explore ways in which WEF could support the goals of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

WEF also strived to support meetings of the Commission and its subsidiaries through the submission of scientific and technical information. For example, in November 1997, WEF ascertained that Lyn Billman-Golemme, the facilitator of the caucus on freshwater of the Commission, was preparing a paper on "Industry and water" in support of the work of the caucus. WEF conducted a search of its publications and provided the facilitator with case studies demonstrating innovative approaches to the reuse of water for industrial applications. WEF responded to the call from the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat for sustainable development case studies for the sixth session of the Commission by submitting a range of relevant success stories in the areas of capacity-building, education, freshwater and industry. These were presented to the sixth session of the Commission and two, "Cairo sludge disposal study" and "Lake Tobla-Lake Champlain Sister Lakes Exchange", were selected for publication by the Division for Sustainable Development in *Sustainable Development Success Stories* and at *http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev*. These were two of only 19 success stories published within the freshwater management category in 1998. Thus, WEF supplied more than 10 per cent of the water-related case studies published that year.

Cooperation with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies

In seeking consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, WEF's goal was to offer the benefit of the scientific and technical information and expertise available through its membership to support the objectives of the Commission on Sustainable Development and its subsidiary bodies. WEF worked during the reporting period to raise the awareness of United Nations officials of the resources it can provide. It also sought to understand how these resources could be accessible to the United Nations and its officials. For example, during 1996, WEF's official representative contacted or visited at least eight officials of UNDP, three officials of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and the Chief of the Water Resources Development and Management Service of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Some of the key exchanges were with Ms. Farida Ayoub, Chief of the NGO Section for the former Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development of the United Nations Secretariat; Mr. Pierre Najlis of the Energy and Natural Resource Branch of the Division for Sustainable Development; Frank Hartvelt, Director, Water, Waste Management and the Aquatic Environment Group of the Sustainable Energy and Environment Division (SEED) of UNDP; and Maureen O'Neill, Senior Water Adviser with the same group.

As a result of these meetings and exchanges, WEF was asked by Mr. Vicente Santiago-Fandino, a Programme Officer with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) International Environmental Technology Centre (IETC) to provide information on lake management experts and expert institutions in Australia and South-East Asia. According to Mr. Santiago-Fandino, "the most valuable information" provided by WEF helped IETC "consider different possibilities for our projects in the region". WEF was also asked to provide input to a paper prepared by UNDP/SEED on "Human resource development in the water sector" (see below). Officials at the United Nations recommended that WEF join the World Water Council and the Global Water Partnership. WEF joined both organizations in 1997 and maintains these memberships today.

Other relevant activities

In 1996 and 1997, members of WEF staff, its official representative to the United Nations and 10 additional WEF members performed reviews of and provided resource materials for *Human Resources Development in the Water Sector: A Proposed Strategy* that was prepared by the UNDP's SEED Water, Waste Management and Aquatic Environment Division for consideration by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council at its 3-7 November 1997 meeting in Manila. The document contained information on case studies and programmes provided by WEF and the role of WEF and individual members was noted in the "Contributors to the strategy" appendix to the document. According to Ms. Maureen O'Neill, Senior Water Adviser to UNDP: "The comments from WEF were invaluable." Ms. O'Neill also noted: "The Water Environment Federation has always been one of the best professional groups around. I feel very fortunate to be working with all of you."

In March 1998, Mr. Cengiz Ertuna, Chief, Water Resources Section of the Environment and Natural Resources Management Division of ESCAP, participated as a keynote speaker in WEFTEC Asia, a conference organized by WEF in Singapore and with an attendance of over 1,400. Speaking in a session that also featured Mr. Heng Chiang Meng, Chairman of Singapore's Parliamentary Committee on the Environment, Mr. Ertuna presented a paper entitled "Water and waste-water infrastructure development challenges in Asia and the Pacific".

In addition to its in-kind support, WEF made some modest financial contributions in support of the furtherance of United Nations goals during the reporting period. WEF covered the cost of Mr. Ertuna's transportation, lodging and miscellaneous expenses and waived the registration fee so that he could participate in WEFTEC Asia in March 1998 in Singapore. In February 1995, WEF provided a contribution of the requested amount ($50) in support of the Non-Governmental Organizations/Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat (NGO/DPI) Executive Committee and donated $250 in support of the activities of the Department of Public Information NGO Resource Centre in April 1997.

6. World Association of Children's Friends

(Special consultative status granted 1987)

Introduction (goals and objectives)

The World Association of Children's Friends, founded in 1963 by Princess Grace of Monaco, is a non-governmental organization currently headed by Her Royal Highness the Princess of Hanover.

The goal of the Association is to support and promote all activities for the physical, moral and spiritual welfare of the world's children, whatever their race, nationality or religion, in a spirit of complete political independence.

Officers:

(a) Secretary-General: Mr. Jacques Danois, a Belgian national, former Senior Officer for information with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (Paris, New York, Bangkok, Abidjan);

(b) First Vice-President: Mr. Georges Grinda, a national of Monaco, Chef de Cabinet to His Serene Highness the Sovereign Prince of Monaco.

The Association is represented in a total of 23 countries through affiliated national associations: Argentina, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Congo, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, France, Greece, Guinea, Italy, Lithuania, Madagascar, Monaco, Poland, Portugal, Senegal, Spain and Togo, plus Benin, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Burundi, Niger and Philippines, the latter five having joined between 1995 and 1998.

On the moral or intellectual level, the Association is active in the following areas:

(a) Ethics and law, in efforts to protect the lives and physical and mental integrity of children against the scourges of drugs, violence, abusive genetic engineering and child prostitution;

(b) Education, in efforts to raise awareness among youth in countries of the northern hemisphere about the problems of youth in the southern hemisphere: sponsorship of disadvantaged school children through the "School Passport" project financed by youth activities in the Principality of Monaco;

(c) A major programme of "Health and moral prevention for youth", which provides education in responsibility and has given rise to a "Code of Life" discussed in the book *Pour l'Enfant*.

On the practical level, the Association provides assistance to projects submitted by the national associations, after they have been approved by its Projects Committee.

On a limited basis, the Association provides assistance to activities in other countries: Cambodia, Cameroon, Mali, Mauritania, Nepal, Romania, Viet Nam.

(a) Combating nutritional blindness (vitamin A, in partnership with UNICEF);

(b) Providing education and literacy teaching for street children;

(c) Training young indigenous surgeons and performing surgical operations on children with cleft palates;

(d) Establishing specialized centres to assist teen mothers and their babies.

Sources of funding:

(a) Development of fund-raising through more regular use of the media;

(b) Support from the Government of Monaco for the activities of the Association's secretariat.

Affiliation with an international non-governmental organization on a consultative basis: *Innocence en Danger*.

Participation in United Nations meetings: representation and statements:

(a) UNICEF Executive Board meetings in New York;

(b) General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris;

(c) Various symposia on the rights of the child held by UNESCO in Paris, Geneva, Brussels and Monaco.

Cooperation with the United Nations and specialized agencies: Council of Europe, UNICEF, UNESCO, Economic and Social Council.

Other related activities: child advocacy.

Activities to implement United Nations resolutions: organization of thematic meetings on children and media outreach. Planned for 2000: international symposium on bioethics and the rights of the child, organized jointly with UNESCO, Paris.

Consultation and cooperation with officials of the United Nations Secretariat: ongoing.

Financial assistance given to the United Nations: participation in and support for the UNICEF vitamin A programme.

Financial assistance received from the United Nations: assistance received through various partnerships with UNESCO (for example, the publication *Pour l'enfant*).

Cooperation in the field: Benin.

7. World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union

(Special consultative status granted 1947)

The World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union was founded by Frances Willard, Illinois, United States of America, in 1883 to raise the equal status of women.

Officers: 1996: World President (England), Corresponding Secretary (United States of America), Recording Secretary (United States of America), Treasurer (Australia), First Vice-President (Sweden), Second Vice-President (United States of

America), third Vice-President (Canada) and fourth Vice-President (Republic of Korea).

Departments and appointed Superintendents at world level. Affiliated member countries encouraged to help their members through contact with the superintendents.

Departments: Children and Youth, Education, Citizenship, Hospitality, Peace and Human Rights, Social Services, Public Relations, Literature, Promotion Methods, Christian Outreach.

Fieldworkers: Middle East, Far East, Pacific islands, Africa, Commonwealth countries, Russian Federation, Baltic States, United States of America and Great Britain.

United Nations representatives: United States of America and Geneva.

Member countries in the West assist with monetary help where needed. World Union sponsor national officers and workers from underprivileged countries to attend the Triennial World Conventions.

Recent Conventions: 1995: Melbourne, Australia; 1998: Seoul, Republic of Korea. The thirty-fifth Triennial World Convention will take place in Birmingham, England, from 25 July to 1 August 2001.

This organization attended the annual assembly of the annual assembly of NGOs in New York, 28-30 August 2000.